

GRIZZLY

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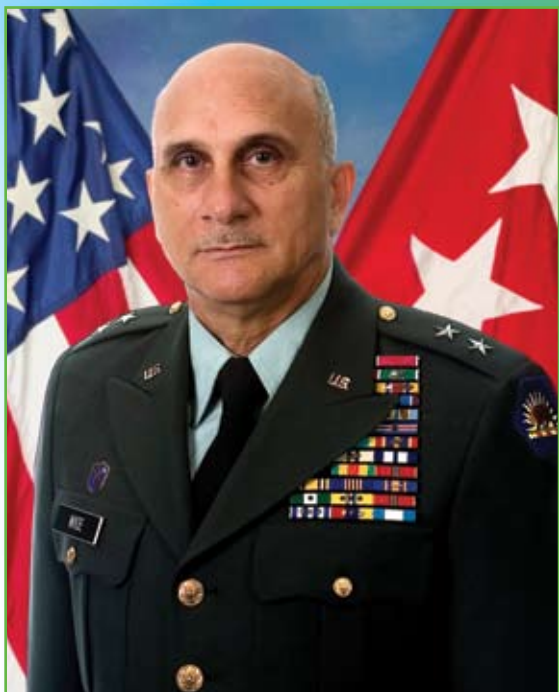
2008
January
Vol. 3 No. 1



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Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II



**Command Sgt. Maj.
William Clark**



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Army Division



Brig. Gen. Louis J. Antonetti



**Command Sgt. Maj.
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State Military Reserve



Brig. Gen. Emory J. Hagan



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Robert W. Delaney**

Grizzly

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FROM THE EDITOR

2007 has been a tremendous year for the California National Guard. More than 3500 Soldiers and Airmen deployed this year in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Approximately the same number has been mobilized within California to support civil authorities and first responders in missions such as guarding our border and fighting fires.

I have included in this month's issues a 2007-at-a-glance section. While it is impossible to capture every training event, deployment and redeployment we strived to cover as many as possible and will include more in this year's Year in Review.

Continue to submit articles and photographs!

Cover Courtesy of California National Guard Aviation Office

SUBMISSIONS

Articles:

- ★ 250 – 300 words for half a page, 600-800 words for full page article.
- ★ Include first and last names, and *verify spelling*
- ★ If there is a Public Affairs officer assigned to your unit ensure he/she reviews it.

Photographs:

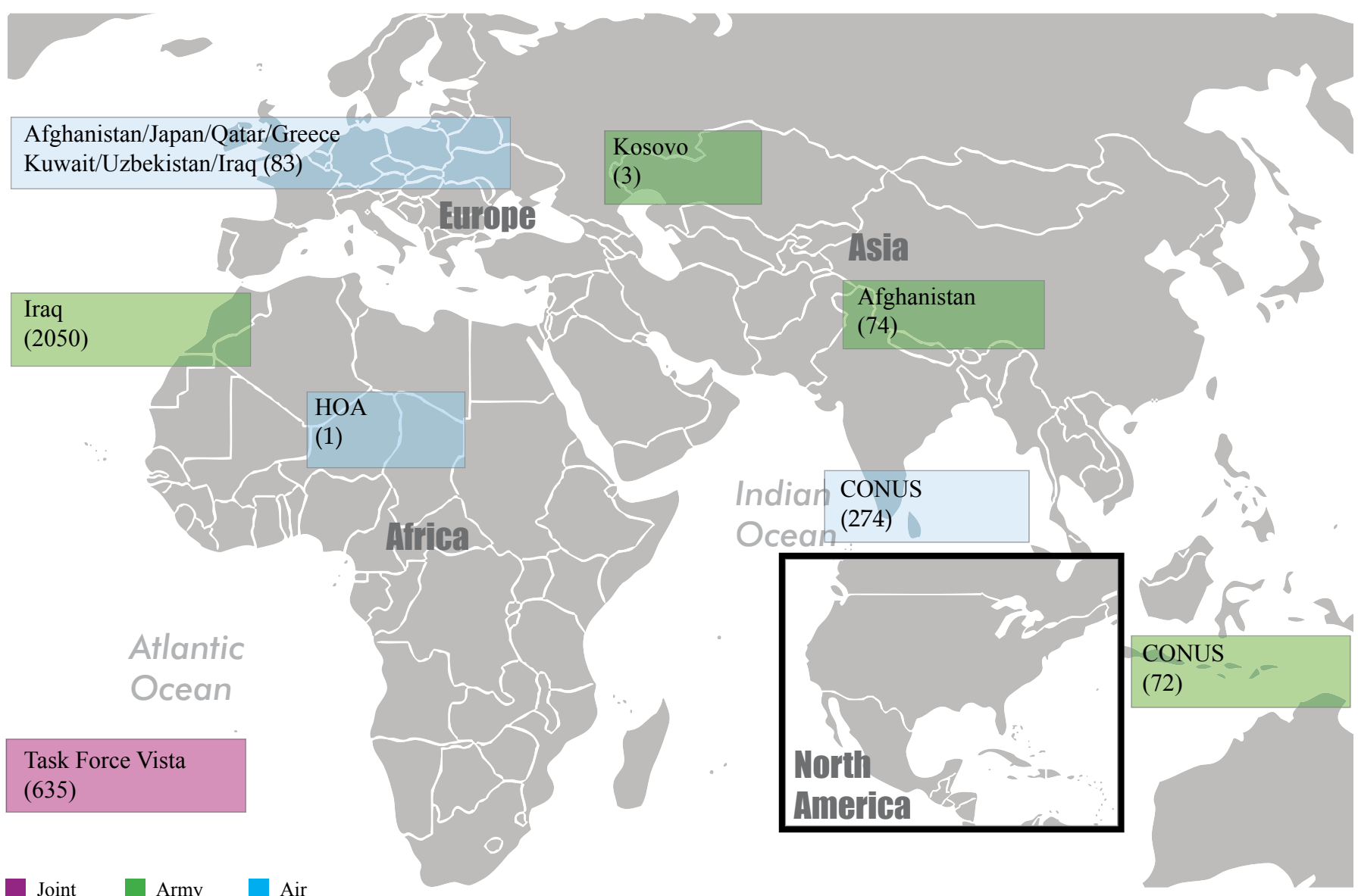
- ★ Highest resolution possible, minimum 300 dpi
- ★ Credits (who took photograph)
- ★ Cutline (what action is taking place in the photograph and identify individuals in photograph)

Email story submissions by the
15th of every month to:

mirtha.villarreal@us.army.mil

Where We Are

The California National Guard as of December 2007



Jan-May



January

Final Flight for C-130E Hercules

After 46 years of transporting personnel, cargo and fighting fires the C-130E Hercules was retired. With the last flight the E-model accumulated a total flying time of 46,410 hours and 27,052 hours in the Air National Guard. The 146th Airlift Wing will receive two C-130J models in its place.

February

The 49th Military Police Returns from Iraq

The 49th deployed as a Combat Support Military Police Battalion Headquarters and assumed Command of a Multi-National Task Force. During their deployment the 49th made significant contributions to the security and stability of Iraq. They were responsible for securing a Forward Operating Base and protecting the lives of 1,100 US and Coalition military personnel and 296 civilians who worked on or near the installation. They conducted 1,200 security patrols and 1,400 combat missions. They provided pumps and water lines (for potable water) to 15 local villages (800 people), and they destroyed over 100 tons of unexploded ordnance.



March

2-185th Armor Returns from Iraq

Soldiers from B Company, 2-185th Armor Battalion celebrated their return from a year-long combat tour in Iraq.

The 2-185th Armor Company was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In Iraq, Soldiers of the 2-185th were responsible for the security of more than 2,200 detainees until June 2006 when the camp was closed. It was then the responsibility of the unit to transport approximately 5,000 detainees to various holding facilities throughout Iraq. Following that mission, the Soldiers of the 2-185th were responsible for convoy security and operational control of a forward operating base where the company's convoy team operated without any coalition or civilian casualties for more than 10,000 miles.

315th Security Forces Company Returns from Afghanistan

More than 100 members of the 315th Security Force Company return to California after a yearlong deployment to Kabul, Afghanistan.

Soldiers of the 315th conducted area security and force protection missions in Kabul to allow coalition forces to operate without enemy interference.

The 315th conducted more than 1,000 convoy security missions, 2,000 security patrols in downtown Kabul (mounted and dismounted) and provided Quick Reaction Force support and security for various operations in the Kabul area.

1-160th Infantry Deploys to Iraq

A farewell ceremony was held for Soldiers from the Los Angeles based 1st Battalion 160th Infantry Battalion on Mar. 4, 2007, at the Joint Forces Training Base.

Approximately 600 Soldiers from all over California deployed to Iraq to provide convoy security during a year-long tour. The unit conducted intensive pre-mobilization training at Camp Shelby, Miss., before deploying to southern Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 1-160th Infantry has a rich history of answering the call to duty for the state and our nation including the Watts riots in the 1960s, the Rodney King riots in the early 1990s, the 1994 6.8 earthquake in southern California and have served in Southwest Asia. More than 100 of these Soldiers have previously deployed in support of OIF and will be serving their second tour in Iraq.

AT A GLANCE ▶▶ 2007

144th Fighter Wing's Medical Group Provides Humanitarian Support to Nicaragua

More than 30 Airmen from the California National Guard's 144th Fighter Wing's Medical Group returned to Fresno after a two-week-long deployment to Managua, Nicaragua.

The Airmen were deployed Mar. 17 through Mar. 30, 2007, in support of the U.S. Southern Command sponsored New Horizons 2007 training exercise.

This readiness exercise provided an excellent opportunity for the Fresno-based medical group to receive crucial training while improving the quality of life for the people of Nicaragua.

Members provided basic medical care for patients at three separate worksites. The services centered on public health and education, family medicine, optometry, dental services, pediatric care and women's health.



1113th Transportation Company Deploys to Kuwait

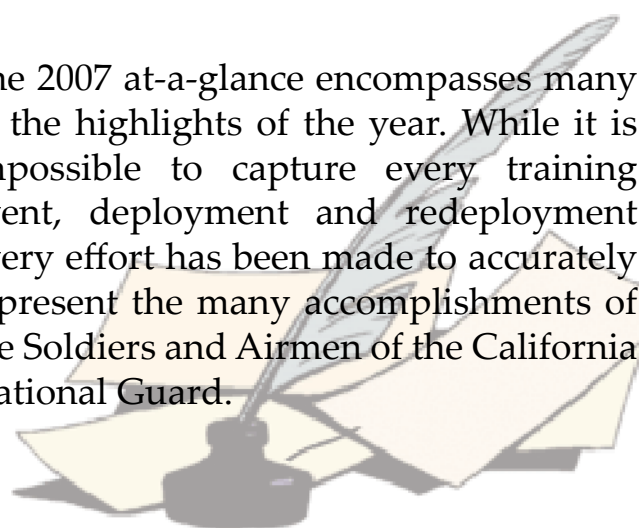
A deployment ceremony for Soldiers from the San Jose based 1113th Transportation Company was held on Sunday April 15, 2007, at Camp Roberts.

Approximately 175 Soldiers from all over California deployed in support of Operation Iraqi freedom to provide ground transportation for supplies and equipment in and out of Kuwait as well as throughout Iraq. To prepare for their yearlong tour, the unit embarked on Apr. 16 to Camp Atterbury, Ind. where they conducted extensive pre-deployment training.



From the Editor

The 2007 at-a-glance encompasses many of the highlights of the year. While it is impossible to capture every training event, deployment and redeployment every effort has been made to accurately represent the many accomplishments of the Soldiers and Airmen of the California National Guard.



April

Air National Guardmen Set to Deploy to Afghanistan

Air National Guardsmen from the 129th Rescue Wing deployed to Afghanistan April 23. More than 35 citizen Airmen from all over the Bay Area deployed to provide combat search and rescue support for Operation Enduring Freedom.

The primary mission of the 129th RQW is to train and be prepared to perform its wartime mission of combat search and rescue anywhere in the world. In addition to its wartime mission, the unit also works closely with the Coast Guard and various civil agencies on state missions.

Equipped with MC-130P Combat Shadow tankers and HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopters, the 129th has performed a wide variety of civilian search and rescue missions, including distressed persons aboard ships, lost or injured hikers, and medical evacuations.

May

Engineer Brigade Returns from Iraq

42 members of the Engineer Brigade, 40th Infantry Division returned from a year-long deployment to Northern Iraq.

The mission of the Engineer Brigade and the Gulf Region Division was to provide quality, responsive, full spectrum engineering in Iraq in support of military and civil construction. Working at the national level, and interacting directly with Iraqi Ministers and the two Deputy Prime Ministers, the members of the Brigade also helped to develop the capabilities of the new Iraqi Government to develop and maintain their own infrastructure. Additionally, they delivered logistical services and aggressively assisted the government of Iraq in assuming full responsibility for national reconstruction.

While in Iraq, the 40th Engineer Brigade assisted in projects that included renovation and construction of hospitals, primary healthcare facilities, municipal buildings, water and wastewater treatment facilities, police stations and border forts, electrical power generation and distribution systems, roads, seaports and airports.

May-July

California National Guard Rescues Lost Hiker

CNG from Mather Air Field rescued a lost hiker who had been missing from a weekend trip in mountainous terrain southeast of Fresno.

The National Guard rescue helicopter was launched from Mather after receiving a call to assist with search and rescue operations being conducted by the Tulare County Sheriff's office. The crew began searching in the Dome Mountain Wilderness area and spotted the 64-year-old male in a ravine.

The crew lowered two medics to the ground to assess the hiker's condition and then hoisted him to the safety of the helicopter. The hiker was then transported to China Lake Naval Air Station where the medics accompanied him via ambulance to Ridgecrest Hospital.

144th Fighter Wing Returns from Iraq and Afghanistan

Airmen from the 144th Fighter Wing returned to the Fresno airport from a seven-month deployment overseas to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Seventeen members of the wing's Civil Engineering RED HORSE Squadron and one member of the Logistics Readiness Squadron departed the base in mid-October 2006 for Fort McCoy, Wis., where they were taught Combat Skills Training by Army personnel prior to departing for the Middle East.

Then Airmen deployed to augment the 202nd RED HORSE Squadron from the Florida ANG, which was tasked to perform an Army mission that the Army could not support. The unit's missions included repairing runways, paving roads, and constructing temporary buildings throughout Afghanistan and Iraq.

RED HORSE stands for Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers, and the unit's mission is to provide a highly mobile, rapidly deployable civil engineering response force which can perform heavy damage repair for recovery of critical Air Force facilities.

129th Deploys to Horn of Africa

Air National Guardsmen from the 129th Rescue Wing departed for a one-month deployment to Djibouti.

More than 30 Airmen deployed to provide combat search and rescue support for Operation Enduring Freedom's Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa.

Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa works to prevent conflict, promote regional stability and protect coalition interests in east Africa and Yemen through humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and civic action programs to include medical and veterinary care, school and medical clinic construction and water development projects.

"This is our second wave of deployments since April, and both deployments are in support of Operation Enduring Freedom," said Col. Amos Bagdasarian, commander of the 129th Rescue Wing. "We deployed to the Horn of Africa in 2005, and we are proud to support the mission once again."



143rd Field Artillery Deploys to Iraq

Detachment 1, 1st Battalion 143d Field Artillery presented the flag from their 2005 Afghanistan Deployment to the City of Concord before deploying to Iraq. The farewell ceremony and flag presentation will take place at the Concord Armory May 10, 2007.

The Concord detachment deployed to Iraq to provide force protection and security during their year-long tour. The unit conducted intensive pre-mobilization training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, before deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 143rd Field Artillery was first organized in 1912 with headquarters in Oakland. The unit served on the Mexican border from 1916-1917, World War I from 1917-1919, World War II from 1941-1946. During the Global War on Terror, soldiers have recently served in homeland defense duties during Operation Noble Eagle, combat missions in Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, and security duties at Guantanamo Bay for Operation Enduring Freedom. Soldiers from the 143rd Field Artillery have also recently helped secure California airports and provided humanitarian relief during Hurricane Katrina.

118th Maintenance Company Deploys to Iraq

A deployment ceremony for Soldiers from the Stockton-based 118th Maintenance Company was held May 22, 2007, at Delta College's Athletic Field, Stockton, Calif.

250 Soldiers from all over California deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and will be providing service maintenance support to multiple units in Iraq. To prepare for their year-long tour, the unit left May 23, 2007, to Fort Hood, Texas, where they conducted extensive pre-deployment training.

CNG Helicopters Assist in Fighting Catalina Fires

Two California National Guard CH-47 "Chinook" helicopters transported 103 firefighting personnel from Camp Pendleton to Catalina Island to assist in the effort to extinguish the more than 4,000-acre fire.

The California National Guard received a support request from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and responded within hours with two heavy-lift aircraft.

The CH-47 is a dual-rotor, heavy-lift aircraft that is capable of transporting large numbers of personnel, as well as providing aerial fire suppression through the use of high capacity water buckets, although it wasn't needed for this mission.

June

CNG Airlifts bridge

The final section of a long-awaited recreational trail system at Millerton Lake State Recreation Area near Fresno was lifted into place by a CNG Blackhawk helicopter in support of a community volunteer project.

By lifting three bridge sections into place over the rugged, Big Sandy Creek drainage, the helicopter finished an 11-year effort by dozens of volunteers and a caravan of mules to complete an 18-mile trail system through the Sierra foothills.

Due to the rugged terrain and the intense weight of the prefabricated bridge sections, the National Guard's Blackhawk was identified as the best option for the airlift. "The highly skilled crew and the maneuverability of the Blackhawk will be instrumental in moving the bridge sections to the remote location," said Lt. Col. Mark Van Dyke, Battalion Commander for the 1/140th Aviation. "It's a great training opportunity for us, and it's also a great way for us to support the local community."

AT A GLANCE ►► 2007

349th Quartermaster Company Deploys to Iraq

A deployment ceremony for from the Vallejo-based 349th Quartermaster Company will be held on Sunday, June 10, at the Camp San Luis Obispo.

120 Soldiers from all over California deployed to Southern Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and will provide logistical support to the 530th Combat Service Support Battalion from Fort Lee, Va. To prepare for their year-long tour, the unit will departed for Fort Hood, Texas, where they will conducted extensive pre-deployment training.



July

California National Guard Helps Fight Expanding Reno Wildfire

CNG aircraft dropped water in the continuing effort to fight a 2,500 acre Hawken Wildland Fire in Reno.

On July 19, 2007, a Firehawk fire suppression helicopter took off from Los Alamitos Joint Force Training Base with CNG crew and two California Department of Forestry fire managers en route to Reno. The following day the CNG supplied a CH-47 helicopter with crew, a fuel truck and crew, and a passenger vehicle with two personnel to help contain the fire.

1114th Transportation Company Returns from Iraq

More than 175 Soldiers from the 1114th Transportation Company celebrated their return from a 15-month long combat tour in Iraq. The ceremony will take place at Kern County Fairgrounds, Bakersfield, Calif.

While in Iraq, the 1114th Transportation Company's primary mission was to provide transportation and logistical support to several coalition units throughout the Northern region of the country.

"The 1114th Transportation Company returns to California after a year in Iraq and joins over 22,000 other citizen Soldiers and Airmen of the California National Guard as combat veterans and individuals deployed for the Global War on Terrorism," said Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II, the California National Guard's Adjutant General. "I, and the rest of California's community-based defense forces, welcome them home with a heart-felt 'well done' for their outstanding performance of duty and patriotism as part of America's Army."

California National Guard rescues second hiker in two weeks

In less than a two-week period, California National Guardsmen from Mather Air Field rescued their second hiker who had been lost while backpacking in California's wilderness.

A National Guard Blackhawk rescue helicopter was launched from Mather after receiving a call to assist the Amador County sheriff's office with search and rescue operations for a missing hiker in the El Dorado National Forest. The crew began searching northwest of the Mokelumne Wilderness area near Silver Lake on Sunday but did not see any sign of the hiker before nightfall.

The crew resumed their search in morning in the area where the hiker was expected to travel. After seeing no signs of the hiker, the crew headed east of the search area when they spotted the 65-year-old male near the edge of a waterfall.

The crew lowered a medic to the ground to assess the hiker's condition and then hoisted him to the safety of the helicopter. The hiker was in good condition and was transported to the Amador County sheriff's command post which had been staged at Plasse's Resort in Silver Lake.



129th Returns from Horn of Africa

The 129th Rescue Wing will return from a one-month deployment to Djibouti.

More than 30 Airmen returned home after providing combat search and rescue support for Operation Enduring Freedom's Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa.

Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa works to prevent conflict, promote regional stability and protect coalition interests in east Africa and Yemen through humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and civic action programs to include medical and veterinary care, school and medical clinic construction and water development projects.

CNG Aircraft Fight Wildfires

Four California National Guard helicopters were deployed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Office of Emergency Services to assist in fighting the INYO COMPLEX fire near Big Pine, Calif.

The aircraft began dropped water in support of firefighting efforts on the ground. Four aircraft were staged out of the Bishop Airport with a fifth remaining on stand-by at Mather Air Field. The deployed aircraft include two UH-60 Blackhawks, one CH-47 Chinook and one specialized UH-60 Firehawk, all equipped to execute aerial fire suppression missions. They are also capable of transporting personnel and equipment in and out of remote terrain.

August-December

August

40th Combat Brigade Returns from Iraq

Members of the 40th Combat Brigade returned from an 18 month tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Soldiers were hand selected from the California National Guard's 40th Combat Aviation Brigade to deploy with the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade from Texas and the 1/131st Air Assault Battalion from Alabama to deploy to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In Iraq, the Soldiers piloted and maintained UH-60 Blackhawks, while conducting battlefield circulation and air assault operation in extremely hostile conditions. A total of 14 Soldiers from the 40th CAB deployed.



CNG Supports Wildfire in Kings County

Two CNG helicopters were requested by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Office of Emergency Services the morning of August 13, 2007 to assist in fighting the Tar Fire in Kings County near Fresno. The aircraft include a UH-60 from Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base and a CH-47 from Stockton Flight Facility.

September

40th Infantry Division Engineer Brigade deactivates after 14 years of service

The 40th Infantry Division Engineer Brigade folded its flag for the last time On September 16, 2007, in a de-activation ceremony.

The Engineers in the Brigade have had 14 years of service with notable accomplishments while serving California during emergencies and serving our nation in the Global War on Terror. The brigade has been one of California's main assets for emergency response since its activation in October 1993. Engineer Brigade personnel responded to the floods in 1993, 1995 and 1997, as well as numerous forest fires. The brigade oversaw the creation of the Chemical and Biological Emergency Response Force Package (CERFP) to counter potential weapons of mass destruction attacks. After Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, key personnel were sent to Louisiana to assist with the federal and state emergency response.

The brigade returned on May 17, 2007 from a year-long deployment where they managed thousands of critical reconstruction projects in Iraq for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Brigade Commander, Col. Michael L. Herman, was assigned as deputy commander for the gulf Region Division, while the unit was in theater. The unit earned the Iraqi Campaign Streamer and was nominated for the Meritorious Unit Citation.

The Engineer Brigade is survived by the 578th and 579th Engineer Battalions. At its peak, the Brigade consisted of over 1,400 Soldiers. Most of the Soldiers remaining at the 58th Street Armory will convert to a Tactical Command Post of the 40th Infantry Division. Their new mission will be to augment the main command post for the 40th Infantry Division and become the command and control of the division when the main command post is changing location.



40th Personnel Support Detachment Returns from Iraq

Approximately 40 Soldiers from the 40th Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) returned home from a one-year tour supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Based in Kuwait and Qatar, these Soldiers provided a number of support and administrative services for Soldiers moving north into Iraq.

October



California National Guard Provides for Southern California Fires

The National Guard Soldiers (1,110 Army National Guard, 400 Air National Guard) responded swiftly to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's call with various air and ground assets that are providing security, transportation, and humanitarian support by assisting local authorities.

The California National Guard had a total of six UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters and two UH-1 helicopters that were utilized to combat the fires in Southern California. One CH-47 Chinook departed Stockton with a four-man crew for Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos for missions to be determined. The California National Guard most recently transported approximately 300 Soldiers and equipment using California and Nevada Air National Guard C-130s. The Soldiers are currently conducting operations throughout the region fulfilling humanitarian missions.

Also, Air Guard C-130 Modular Airborne Firefighting Systems (MAFFS) deployed to provide firefighting support. (Two MAFFS from the Wyoming Air National Guard and two MAFFS from the North Carolina Air National Guard).

The UH-60 Blackhawk and the Firehawk are capable of fire suppression missions as well as personnel transport in and out of dangerous and hard to reach locations.

AT A GLANCE ▶▶ 2007

AVCRAD Returns from Kuwait

Seventeen members of the 1106th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD) returned to Fresno from a year-long deployment to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Assigned to Task Force (TF) AVCRAD, these Soldiers worked for the Army Materiel Command (AMC) while in theater. The unit's primary mission was classification and repair of aircraft parts. The TF also provided Forward Operating Cells in Balad, Iraq, and Bagram, Afghanistan, to assist aviation units when requested. Additionally, the TF provided assistance to units by repairing damaged aircraft in theater when required.

November

Governor Names California Army National Guard Winner of 2007 Top Environmental Leadership Award

Governor Schwarzenegger announced that the California Army National Guard has won the 2007 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award (GEELA) for its Dairy Creek Erosion Control Project.

GEELA is the California's highest and most prestigious environmental honor. The award program recognizes individuals, organizations and businesses that have demonstrated exceptional leadership for voluntary achievements in conserving California's resources, protecting and enhancing the environment, and building public-private partnerships.

The California Army National Guard, in conjunction with the Morro Bay National Estuary Program and the California Department of Fish and Game implemented an aggressive erosion control program dedicated to enhancing Camp San Luis Obispo's natural environment and training resources. The erosion control program helped prevent or repair severe erosion problems on the hills that surround Dairy Creek. By bringing together these agencies and working collaboratively the California Army National Guard was able to economically implement measures to protect the ecosystem and watershed.



Battle Against Southern California Wildfires

In total more than 2,500 National Guardsmen were mobilized to fight to save lives, rescue victims, and ease the suffering of those affected by the wildfire devastation in southern California.

National Guard members provided firefighting, security, support to law enforcement, interoperable communications, transportation, medical, and command and control in support of firefighting operations in southern California.

Helicopter crews logged more than 37 flight hours and dropped nearly 244,000 gallons of water on wildfires in Southern California.

Additionally, four Religious Support Teams, consisting of 19 personnel, were deployed to help ease suffering and provide spiritual support at evacuation shelters.

Ready and prepared for any contingency, National Guard C-130 crews and aircraft, equipped with Modular Airborne Firefighting Systems (MAFFS) flew 12 missions and dropped 32,400 gallons of retardant wildfires in San Diego.

December

U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association's Gold Rush Chapter Dedicates Wall of Heroes

Major General William H. Wade, II, joined members of the Gold Rush Chapter of the United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA) and other distinguished guests, Dec. 4, to dedicate The Wall of Heroes, a project recognizing the Soldiers and Airmen of the CNG who have fallen in hostile actions while in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. The CNG has had 22 Soldiers killed in combat in the Global War on Terrorism.

"The Wall of Heroes' project is a very special and meaningful undertaking that our members felt compelled to provide as a lasting testament to our fallen heroes," said Chief Warrant Officer Mario F. Garcia, Gold Rush Chapter president. "It recognizes, in a very

personal way, our fellow service members who made the ultimate sacrifice."

The Wall will be presented to the National Guard and to the families of the fallen heroes as a gift from the Gold Rush Chapter who raised funds for the project through donations and spearheaded its construction.

"On behalf of the entire California National Guard, it is truly an honor to accept this beautiful memorial to recognize our heroes who have paid the ultimate price," said Maj. Gen. Wade. "We want the families of these brave and courageous men and women to know they will never be forgotten."

Major General John S. Harrel

BY SGT. TANYA FORBES



LOS ALAMITOS, CA-Brig. Gen. John S. Harrel, Commander, 40th Infantry Division (M) was promoted to the rank of Major General at a ceremony on Dec. 1, 2007, at Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos.

Major General William H. Wade II, the Adjutant General, was proud to be there for a ceremony that does not happen too often. "Less than 1/25th of one percent of the people of America's army ever rise to this very prestigious rank," said Wade.

Harrel and Wade served many times together. Wade led the 40th Infantry Division as Commander of Multi-National Brigade (East) in Kosovo in 2005 with Col. Harrel as

his Chief of Staff. Wade returned to California to become the Adjutant General and Harrel was promoted to Brigadier General and took over commanding duties in August 2005. Wade was there for that promotion and was glad to be present on this day.

"Once again I get to share in this moment with you and I couldn't be prouder," said Wade.

Harrel was pinned by his wife, Linda, a retired National Guard Colonel, and their son, Cyrus, an ROTC Cadet at UCLA. Harrel spoke of the importance of family support.

"The support of family and community have been key to each Soldier here and especially me," said Harrel.

Harrel ended his speech with a quote from the Torah that he said should be the bywords of all Soldiers. "Pray like the world depends on God, but act like the world depends on you."

Harrel's active military service began in 1975 after being commissioned a second lieutenant through the U.S. Marines Platoon Leaders Course. He joined the California National Guard in 1980 and entered Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles. After law school, he began work with the California Department of

Justice, Office of the Attorney General in Los Angeles. He is presently serving as Deputy Attorney General.

Major General Harrel has served in various positions within the 40th Infantry Division to include company and battalion command. He was the Chief of Staff for three years before deploying to Kosovo. In January 2006, he returned from deployment after serving as the commanding general for the Multi-National Brigade (East) Kosovo Force. He currently serves as the commander of the 40th Infantry Division.

TRIWEST DONATION



TriWest Healthcare Alliance presented a check for \$75,000.00 to agencies representing California National Guard members and families December 14, 2007. The check will be divided between Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Sergeants Major Association of California, and the California National Guard Teens program. Assistant Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Mary Kight, and Senior Enlisted Advisor William Clark accepted the check from TriWest president and CEO Dave McIntyre during a company dinner cruise on the San Diego Bay that was also attended by various California National Guard representatives.

TriWest and McIntyre also donated \$50,000 to the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program during the evening festivities.

As part of the presentation, a small birthday cake with a solitary candle was presented to the assistant adjutant general commemorating the National Guard's founding exactly 371 years earlier.



Sgt. Michael Age (right), medic for Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 185th Infantry, is awarded the Combat Medical Badge by Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II, for providing medical aid to two wounded U.S. Service Members and an Iraqi civilian while under fire in Baghdad Iraq.

PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. RUSSELL BLEDSOE

Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II, administers the Oath of Enlistment to Soldiers of Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery during a recent visit Victory Base Complex, Iraq. "Spending time with these soldiers has set me up with something to be truly thankful for during Thanksgiving," said Wade.

CALIFORNIA GUARD UNIT GETS VISIT

STORY 1ST LT. R.D. COLEMAN

Camp Liberty, IRAQ – From guard towers to entry control points, by armored vehicle or Blackhawk helicopter, Maj. Gen. William H. Wade, the Adjutant General for the California National Guard, wasted little time in seeing exactly what California Army National Guard Soldiers were doing to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Soldiers from Task Force 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery were quick to show him what a day's work was like – from behind the wheel of an Armored Security Vehicle.

Assembled in March 2007, the Task Force is comprised of six artillery batteries from 1-143rd FA plus one

infantry company from the 1st Battalion, 185th Infantry Regiment; all from some part of California. The Soldiers are busy conducting force protection, convoy security, and military police missions out of forward operating bases throughout central and northern Iraq.

"Visiting the Soldiers of Task Force 1-143rd FA in Iraq is one of the best things to happen to me in the last six months", said Wade. "If that isn't enough, I had the opportunity to promote some of them, and re-enlist many of them."

In a tour that covered three different

forward operating bases throughout Iraq, Wade, accompanied by Command Sgt. Major William Clark Jr., Command Sergeant Major for the California National Guard, saw TF 1-143rd FA Soldiers hard at work in their various missions.

In addition to the traditional on-the-spot award of the general's coins for duty excellence, he had the honor of awarding a Combat Action Badge, a Combat Medical Badge, and presiding over 3 re-enlistment ceremonies. Wade took the opportunity to visit additional California Guard Soldiers in the area, to include the 118th Ordnance Company, and the 160th Long

Range Surveillance Detachment.

Wade praised the professionalism and focus of California Soldiers currently serving in Iraq and those Soldiers serving in Southern California in support of the wildfire relief effort.

"Their dedication is something to behold," said Wade. "Spending time with these soldiers has set me up with something to be truly thankful for during Thanksgiving," concluded Wade.



2nd Lt. Christopher Eckman (right), platoon leader for Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 1-143rd Field Artillery gives Maj. Gen. William H. Wade (left), the Adjutant General for the California National Guard a tour of an Entry Control Point. "Their dedication is something to behold," said Wade. Photo by : Master Sgt. Russell Bledsoe

CHARLIE, 223RD MI, BOOTS ON THE GROUND

BY SPC. ALIKA WRIGHT

AFGHANISTAN- We touched down and everyone nervously waited as the plane rolled to a complete stop. The cargo door opened in the back of the plane and we saw our first glimpse of what would be our home for the next several months. It was a warm, sunny afternoon when we landed in Afghanistan.

Almost six months earlier we had begun training for this deployment. From Camp San Luis Obispo, to Fort Lewis, to Fort Huachuca, Charlie 223rd was very active in preparation for this upcoming mission. Classes ranged from Basic Soldier Skills, to Convoy Op-

erations, to Language Training, to Rifle Marksmanship, to MOS-specific Training, and even new concepts implemented by the Army. Charlie 223rd did it all in order to be completely prepared, to solidify unit cohesion, and to 100% effective from the moment we arrived to the moment we get on the plane to return home.

The Soldiers of Charlie 223rd are of men and women from all walks of life, each having skills and personal experiences to bring to the table. The majority of the unit volunteered for this mission, which speaks volumes for the patriotism and character of each of these Sol-

diers. This is the first deployment for the majority of the Soldiers in Charlie 223rd.

As a company of a Military Intelligence Battalion, this unit is comprised of analysts and interrogators. The analyst is truly the "jack-of-all-trades" in the M.I. Family. Each analyst must have the ability to adapt at a moments notice and perform many versions of their job as a major support element. It is crucial that all channels in which the analyst can obtain time sensitive information to transform into actionable intelligence are utilized. By definition, an interrogator is an individual

who questions with formality, command, and thoroughness for full information and circumstantial detail. Especially in today's war on terror, obtaining accurate information in a timely manner can save lives. Both analysts and interrogators from Charlie 223rd have performed their jobs at the highest standard to maximize the amount of intelligence being produced to help protect the citizens of Afghanistan, the American people, and the Soldiers on the front lines. Charlie Company 223rd MI BN will continue to proudly support Operation Enduring Freedom.



THE 349TH QM LEADERS DON'T SIT BEHIND DESKS!

BY PFC. PHAEDRA ROSENGARTH

LSA Adder, Tallil AB, Iraq - Some leaders sit behind a desk all day. Others may, every once in a while, go out among their people and see how things are going. In the 349th Quartermaster Company, when there's work to be done, but not enough people to take on that work, the leadership is not afraid to jump in to help get that work done. Such was the case on September 17, 2007, when some barricades needed to be pulled down in order to make room for a cement pad in the Supply Support Area (SSA) yard.

The personnel from the SSA strive to provide total customer satisfaction and a cooperative working relationship. It is the purpose of SSA to make sure every effort is made to satisfy all requests in a timely manner. However, in the past year, SSA's work load has increased to the point where there is not enough available space to maneuver. It was decided that a

new cement pad to store Con-Ex (container) boxes would have to be build in order to keep up with the expanding mission. But when it came time to get rid of the barricades in order to expand the SSA yard to incorporate enough room for a new cement pad, there was no one available for this particular task. So, in order to get this task completed on time, the commander, Maj. Mario Acevedo, and the 1st Sgt. Roscoe Ritchey, decided that they would get involved and do the job. After a short training session to learn how to use a front-end loader, which was the equipment that they would be using for

this job, they set to work. With the commander ground-guiding him, 1st Sgt. Ritchey demolished the first set of barricades, then scooped up and removed the debris left behind, thus leaving a clear, open space in which to build the new cement pad. Then it was the commander's turn at the controls of the front-end loader. He started to tear into the second set of barricades, but then realized that these would be better off left alone, so decided against tearing them down. In spite of this, the job was completed and the leadership of the 349th proved, yet again, that they are not above rolling up their sleeves and getting involved whenever and wherever needed to get a job done.



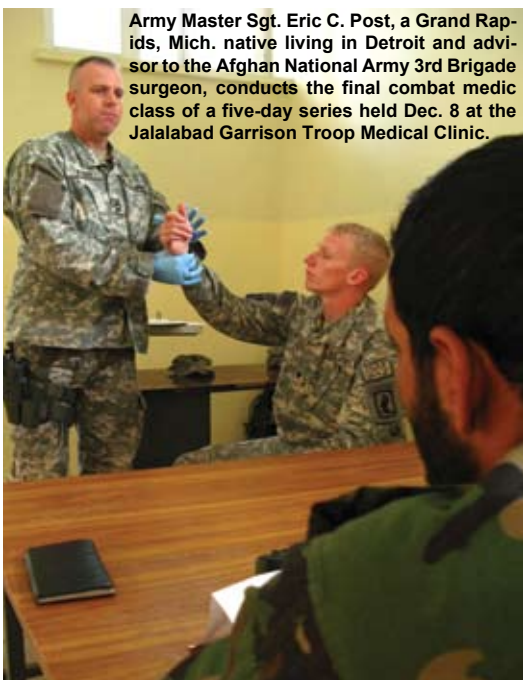
ANA MEDICS GRADUATE

NEW COMBAT MEDIC CLASS

STORY AND PHOTO BY ARMY PFC. DANIEL M. RANGEL



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Paul MacKenzie, senior advisor to the ANA 201st Corps, 3rd Brigade, presents a combat medic patch and certificate during the graduation ceremony held Dec. 8 outside Forward Operating Base Huey in Nangarhar Province.



Army Master Sgt. Eric C. Post, a Grand Rapids, Mich. native living in Detroit and advisor to the Afghan National Army 3rd Brigade surgeon, conducts the final combat medic class of a five-day series held Dec. 8 at the Jalalabad Garrison Troop Medical Clinic.

Forward Operating Base Huey, Afghanistan — The first class of medics from the Afghan National Army 201st Corps, 3rd Brigade, 5th Kandak (ANA battalion equivalent) graduated from a combat medic class during a ceremony held Dec. 8 just outside Forward Operating Base Huey in Nangarhar Province.

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Paul MacKenzie, senior advisor to the ANA 201st Corps, 3rd Brigade, spoke during the graduation ceremony.

"You are learning important skills to not only share with your Soldiers, but also to share with your communities throughout Afghanistan wherever you are stationed and wherever you go throughout your professional life," MacKenzie said.

"What we are trying to do is not only make you more complete medics and Soldiers, but also in our own way, trying to make you better citizens of Afghanistan," MacKenzie said. "Because, the

duty of any citizen of a country is to contribute to that country the best that you can with the skills that you have."

The class was designed to bring Afghans closer to self-sufficiency so that Coalition Forces may return home. MacKenzie also expressed this idea in his remarks.

"When your unit goes to a shurra to meet with the local people and they come to you and they say, 'I have a child who has an injury. Where are the Americans to help us?' You can say, 'I can help you. You don't need the Americans. I have the skills,'" MacKenzie said.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Jason Brooks of Tulsa, Okla., 173rd Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), Brigade Support Battalion, Medical Company C, who works as the Non-commissioned Officer-in-Charge of the medical clinic at Forward Operating Base Fenty was instrumental in putting the five-day class together.

"They've learned everything from how to clear an airway, to trauma assessment, to using different types of bandages and wound dressings to stop bleeding," Brooks said. "They're learning a basic level, which is basically a combat-life-saver level. There's going to be an intermediate and advanced course, which will have more medical tasks and be more like what a U.S. Army medic does."

Brooks is optimistic about the future of the class and has already scheduled classes for the day after graduation.

"There's been nine Soldiers go through the class so far and we have another class of ten more

starting tomorrow," Brooks said. "They really picked up the information quickly. There were some classes I thought were going to take a lot longer and be harder to grasp, but we've had outstanding interpreters and support from the ANA medical officers."

Army Spc. Eric S. Detrick of Fresno, Calif., 173rd BCT (Airborne), BSB, Medical Company C was also a member of the three-Soldier Embedded Training Team who conducted the class.

"We've just been trying to get these guys some good training so they can save some lives out there," Detrick said. "Without the medical skills that we're giving them, they wouldn't be able to help their guys out and try and save their lives."

Detrick explained that the team's most daunting challenge was the language barrier. At least it was at first, but with the right help the challenge was quickly overcome.

"We were kind of worried that some medical terms that we would use wouldn't be recognized in their language, but the interpreters were awesome in describing what we were trying to get across to them," Detrick said. "We weren't sure if they were going to know the term trachea and words like that."

ANA Soldier Muhammad Quasim who participated in the class, understands the importance of using the knowledge he has been given.

"It's great because during battle we're going to have casualties," Quasim said. "But by doing this we can save the life of that person."

Quasim also understands that the students can take their knowledge and help their local communities.

"It's a benefit to us and our village because if some person becomes sick or injured we can treat them," Quasim said. "We're very proud of that."

Army Master Sgt. Eric C. Post, a Grand Rapids, Mich. native living in Detroit and advisor to the Afghan National Army 3rd Brigade Surgeon, led the team of ETT mentors.

Post expressed his desire to see the class grow to the point where the students can become the teachers so that the ANA will become more independent of Coalition Forces' help.

"We want to identify the top-notch Soldiers and make a teaching class to train the trainer," Post said.

Before beginning the graduation ceremony, Post paid perhaps the biggest compliment one Soldier can pay to another that demonstrated his confidence in his ANA students.

Post said to the class, "I will fight with you any day."

Afghan National Army Soldiers from the 201st Corps, 3rd Brigade, 5th Kandak attend the final combat medic class of a five-day series held Dec. 8 at the Jalalabad Garrison Troop Medical Clinic.



JAPANESE GROUND SELF DEFENSE FORCE

WELCOMED TO FORT HUNTER LIGGETT FOR OPERATION RISING WARRIOR

STORY AND PHOTO BY: SGT. KARA M. GREENE



184th Infantry Regiment Soldier asks Japanese Ground Self Defense Force soldiers about the patches on their uniform after Operation Rising Warrior's opening ceremony.



Two Soldiers from the 184th Infantry Regiment out of Modesto, Calif., look inside a Japanese light armored combat vehicle at Fort Hunter Liggett. Elements of the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force and CNG infantrymen will train for two weeks during Operation Rising Warrior.



Japanese Ground Self Defense Force crew chief gives California National Guard soldiers a tour of a light armored combat vehicle at Fort Hunter Liggett during Operation Rising Warrior.

"Doomo arigato," Sgt. Bryce Trauger of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment said aloud surrounded by five other members of his company before Operation Rising Warrior's opening ceremony began.

The exercise is in its fifth year, but it's the first year the 5th Brigade, 27th Infantry Regiment Japanese Ground Self Defense Force (JGSDF) will be training at California's Fort Hunter Liggett. Hosted by their combat arm's counterparts, the 184th Inf. Reg. of Modesto, the Soldiers will practice individual movement tactics and techniques based off of lessons learned during recent deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III. It's also the first year the JGSDF's 27th Inf. Reg. has left Japan to train with another nation's army.

Trauger's junior enlisted troops laugh at his pronunciation and shouted out other simple Japanese words they knew on the parade field in preparation of meeting their brothers in arms from the Land of the Rising Sun. Two of the noncommissioned officers standing in the group had served in Japan during their time in the Marine Corps. The junior enlisted of the group listened intently to the NCO's impromptu language class.

The California National Guard Soldiers admittedly don't know that much Japanese. However, language is anything but a barrier to them.

"Hand and arm signals are effective in combat situations," said Pfc. Rudy Marez of 3rd platoon, as he made the motions for basic infantry directions of movement with his hands. And that's how they feel they'll be able to communicate best during the next three weeks of training.

Trauger, who conducted convoy operations every day for a year in Iraq, feels this will give him confidence to teach the Japanese what he knows.

"This training is our bread and butter," said Trauger. Alpha Co. practices infantry techniques each month at drill. But this is an opportunity for improvement as more than 100 California National Guard Soldiers will train with the 200 JGSDF Soldiers during this exercise, an annual event for the Japanese.

The Japanese Soldiers here have the mission of teaching what they learn to their comrades at home, said Col. Yoshimasa Yamaguchi, brigade commander. Rising Warrior, he said, assists in the development of trust between the United States and Japan.

"In the 1960's, we became a self defense force, not an army," explained Japanese Sgt. Maj. Kaname Koike. "We are bound by the Constitution not to act on the offensive." JGSDF Soldiers have deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan to support the humanitarian mission and rebuilding efforts.

Koike hopes to learn from the CNG Soldiers. He would like to learn the most from those men who deployed to Iraq.

"As we train, we'll discover our differences—our strengths and our weaknesses, and grow from there," said Koike.

Beyond the field training, Soldiers from both sides of the Pacific hope to learn more about each other's culture. Lt. Col. Hideki Onizuka, JGSDF, would like to compare experiences and cultural differences with the CNG Soldiers. It's his first time in the United States, but said he felt welcomed as soon as he arrived.

After the ceremony, Soldiers moved from their two separate platoons and melted into a large group to casually greet each other. CNG Soldiers pointed out patches and pins on Japanese Soldiers' uniforms. Each side answered questions about their boots, their pants, and their headgear with the assistance of translators or a quick game of charades. They snapped photos and practiced each other's language.

A Japanese humvee and a fighting vehicle quickly were overtaken by curious CNG troops. They kicked the tires and crawled through turret openings, asking questions about the vehicle's capabilities.

The Japanese and American Soldiers left the ceremony grounds together toward the dining facility sharing stories and jokes, the ice broken and friendships blossoming.



OPERATION CLEAR VIEW

BY "JEFF"

NOTE: DUE TO OPERATIONAL SECURITY NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED AND RANK OMITTED.

Fiscal year 2008 this last October rolled around at full speed for the newly transformed crewmembers and Soldiers of A Co, of the 3-140th Aviation Security and Support Battalion. As most units in the California National Guard were just finishing their FY'08 training plans, getting ready for the holidays, planning their unit Christmas Parties, as well as their Aviation Safety Stand-downs, A Company was fully engaged in a real-world Homeland Security Aviation operation in support of our State's southwest border with Mexico.

Planning for the Operation Clear View (OCV) began approximately eight months prior with many coordination meetings, and many other Federal Law Enforcement agencies coming together under the leadership of the FBI to team to jointly support Homeland Security missions on the border. Local, State, and Federal Agencies based in and around San Diego played a vital role in the operation. A Co was in charge of the Air Reconnaissance mission and played the role of the general tactical Air Support for the mission. With the unit's OH58 Aero-Scout helicopters equipped with the latest law en-



forcement avionics and optics the unit was able to fly in excess of 230 flight hours in support of several missions for OCV.

The best part of the mission according to "James" was "Actually interfacing and meeting several people from different law enforcement agencies, getting to know them and their mission and supporting them in the air was great."

It was a truly unique opportunity for the CNG unit to build and de-

velop relationships with the FBI and the other Homeland Security and Law Enforcement agencies. According to the unit Commander "Jeff", "This was our first large scale real-world operation since we transformed, besides our usual Border support with OJS and the Counter-Drug support we give to the CD Task Force, CA. It was a unique and valuable opportunity and we did it effectively and safely."

The unit supported the operation

along the California/Mexico border from San Diego to Yuma Arizona. They flew above cities/urban areas, desert, marine, and mountain environments at night, with agents on board and with the state of the art optics for surveillance and detection equipment. Pilot, "Ed" said, "It was basically a real-world game of 'Cat and Mouse', we were the black cats in the sky and the smugglers were the mice, always hiding and always avoiding us, it was a great opportunity to do our Air-Scout mission and make a difference every time we flew a mission."

A Company has transformed from, and has deep roots and traditions from the Air Cavalry. Many of the pilots are ex-OH58D Air Cav Attack-Scout pilots and ex-AH-1 Cobra pilots, who are well versed in the aerial observation and surveillance mission. As for the future, A Company looks forward to the next OCV style mission and remains ready and trained for the next call.

ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT

MAJ STEVEN KEIHL, DIRECTOR OF MENTAL HEALTH



My beautiful baby girl (Tatehyana) is creeping up on her first birthday. Last week, my less than one year old taught her daddy an important lesson about attitude. It was just one of those days... you know, we all have them.... one of those days where nothing seems to go right. I received bad news piled upon more bad news. I struggled with a headache all day long probably due to a lousy night of sleep. On top of that, my wonderful wife Mandy was not feeling so well either. When I returned home, we decided to go out for dinner in an attempt to change the mood and because neither one of us wanted to cook. Anyway, we visited Strings in Elk Grove and planned on a nice Italian dinner. Yummy!

Well, things didn't go quite the way we planned. We waited a long time for service. In fact, three groups of people who came into the restaurant after us all received service, placed their orders, and two groups had food on their table before our waitress ever visited. We placed our order and waited for our soup and salad. After a very long wait, our dinner arrived. Moments later, our waitress showed up with our soup and salad that we had yet to receive. In her scramble to explain the mix up she managed to knock the two soft drinks off her serving tray and right on top of my baby girl's head! OK, for the record, I have never poured ice cold soda on top of my baby's head but I was pretty sure that her response to this shock would be nothing short of a paramount fit. Both my wife and I jumped from our seats not even noticing the soda on our own laps in an attempt to gather and comfort our little baby. You should have seen the look on her face!

We grabbed a blanket, wrapped her up, and my wife took her to the car. Obviously, at that point, we were done with our less than wonderful dinner. I gathered the rest of our personal things from the table, endured the multiple apologies from our waitress, and quickly moved to my vehicle where I anticipated a screaming baby girl.

I was wrong. I opened the door and my soda soaked baby pointed to me and said "da da da" as she often does when daddy re-appears. She smiled. I looked at her soaked outfit, rubbed her sticky head and hair, and sat next to her as we departed the restaurant and headed home for some peanut butter and jelly.

I couldn't help but be amazed at my little girl. The world just dumped ice cold soda directly on top of her head and after a moment of shock, she brushed it off and moved on with her night in the best of moods. I began to think about my own life. I was feeling a bit like the world had "dumped" ice cold soda on my head all day long. I reflected upon my own attitude and had to admit that I had not made the same choice regarding my attitude that my daughter Tehya had made with her attitude. You see, attitude is a choice! While we cannot control or choose what happens to us everyday, how other people treat us, what the weather is like, or who wins the big game... we can control our own attitude. While emotional responses to any give situation is normal and healthy, neither the situation nor our emotional response need determine our attitude and our ongoing mood. We have the choice to allow the "ice cold soda dumped on our heads" to either lead to a negative attitude or we can choose to address the situation and move forward without spoiling our attitude or our mood. It is our choice! It is your choice! What attitude will you choose today?

Mental Health Task Force Grows

We welcome Maj. Mike Masters, CA SMR, to the full-time Mental Health Task Force. Maj. Masters is a licensed psychologist in CA and will be serving as our new State Psychologist. He joined the full time team in November and will be providing services from SO CAL. Currently, Maj. Masters is working from both Los Alamitos and Fort Irwin. For SO CAL issues, you can contact him at mike.masters@us.army.mil or on his government cell phone at 916-826-4917. The current full-time Mental Health Task Force is comprised of the Director, Maj. Keihl, State Social Worker, Maj. Frye, State Psychologist, Maj. Masters, and NCOIC, Spec. Imhoof.

DOD Mental Health Task Force Update

In response to the recently released DOD Mental Health Force Task Force Report and subsequent Action Plan, the National Guard Bureau has hired Maj Clifford Trott to serve as the Director of Psychological Health in Washington DC. We welcome Maj. Trott to the team and look forward to his leadership and guidance in this pivotal time. The plan now calls for each state to hire a Director of Psychological Health in response to the DOD Action Plan. I am sure that Maj. Trott and the NGB will be assisting states in answering the many questions relative to this exciting new development. California will be working with the NGB and other states in an attempt to determine how we will best comply with many of the 95 recommendations made by the DOD in the Action Plan. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the DOD Action Plan, send us an email or give us a call.



Contacting the Mental Health Task Force

Office – 916-854-3019

DSN – 466-3019

Cell – 916-240-3477

Email – mental.healthca@ng.army.mil

Website - <http://www.calguard.ca.gov/mhtf/Pages/default.aspx>

Wings, Wheels and Rotors Expo

STORY AND PHOTO BY CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER MARC YABLONKA



USAF C-17 Globemaster III seen from the air above the Los Alamitos Army Airfield during the annual Wings, Wheels & Rotors event in late October. Transportation courtesy of the L.A. Co. Sheriff's Department and pilot- Deputy Tony Pachot.

JOINT FORCES TRAINING BASE, LOS ALAMITOS, CALIF.— You know you have gone back in time when, as you traverse the tarmac of the last remaining Army airfield in the greater Los Angeles/ Orange County areas, a Piasecki CH-21 “Flying Banana”, the first type of helicopter to touch down in Vietnam in 1961, whop, whop, whops right over your head jockeying for position on the flight line.

The sixth annual “Wings, Wheels, and Rotors Expo”, co-sponsored by the Joint Forces Training Base and the Los Alamitos, Calif. Chamber of Commerce is what brought the Piasecki, and many other aircraft, to the flight line of the airfield in late October.

True to its name, the event draws a mixture of fixed-wing airplanes and rotary-wing aircraft, along with some of the most finely-polished, “look but don’t touch” vintage automobiles and motorcycles assembled in one place at one time.

And this year, according to Chamber Chairman Stephen Dedola, some 30,000 residents of Orange County—kids, parents and grandparents alike—traipsed excitedly up and down the flight line admiring everything: from a 1936 jet black Ford Woody, complete with surfboards strapped its roof, to a 1955 Studebaker Commander in cherried-out condition.

Altogether, 677 entrants showcased their automobiles and motorcycles in 39 rows, each—just like the kids who entered—showcasing an American flag that they were given, according to Expo co-organizer, City Councilman Dean Grose.

Kids could be heard up and down the tarmac saying “Dad! Check this out!”...“Hey mom, look at that!”

Eight-year-old Blake Phillips of Cypress sure seemed likewise impressed when, at the behest of Capt. Seth Ewalt, he plopped down in the right seat in the cockpit of a C-17 Globemaster III from the 452nd Air Wing, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, Calif.

“This is cool!” Blake told his dad and Capt. Ewalt.

Meanwhile back in the cargo hold of the C-17, Orange County resident Abel Marin, 79, a veteran of the Korean War with the U.S. Army’s 24th Division, seemed overwhelmed.

“This is something else. You really have to see this in person,” he said, stating that he was proud to have served his country when he did. His elder brother Raul, sitting by his side, did the same during World War II at Camp Roberts.

While the grandparents and parents, many veterans themselves, got misty-eyed as they viewed the

likes of aircraft that had once taken them into battle, a lot was going on around them.

At the same time that they mused at the likes of a C-53 (civilian model DC-3, and paratrooper version of the C-47 Goony Bird), three CH-47 Chinook helicopters, one each from the California, Nevada, and Oregon National Guard, six UH-60 Blackhawks—which were supporting the wildfires out of Los Alamitos that day and not part of the Expo—as well as the Cal Guard Predator from the 163rd Air Wing out of March ARB, flybys were performed by the very same 0-1 Bird Dogs that flew recon in Vietnam as well as calling in air strikes from the “big boys up above,” along with AT-6 Texans. In addition, several life-like radio remote-controlled World War II Warbirds flew rings around the air field to the crowd’s amazement.

Unfortunately, many of the flybys that had been scheduled had to be postponed because of the Southern California wildfires,” said Lt. Col. Tom Lasser, U.S. Army ret., event MC, one of the originators of the Expo that first began in 2002, and former Commanding Officer of the Los Alamitos Army Airfield on the Joint Forces Training Base.

In fact, air space had to be kept clear at all times for the Guard firefighting helicopters that were assisting local fire departments in their efforts to quell the various fires that plagued Southern

California in late October, Lt. Col. Lasser said.

Meanwhile, SGT Bill Baker, G-4 section, 40th Infantry Division, whose headquarters is on post at the JFTB, for once in his 28 years of service in the California National Guard, got a chance to leave his uniform at home and drive on post to exhibit his 1963 & 1/2 fire engine red Ford Falcon Futura.

“It’s great for a Soldier to show people what I like to do as a hobby. In addition to the Bradleys and the Howitzers, it’s a part of the airfield that the public doesn’t usually get to see,” the Sgt. said.

Many law enforcement agencies exhibited their airplanes at the Wings, Wheels & Rotors Expo as well. The latest helicopters from the California Highway Patrol, Los Angeles Police Department, Orange and Los Angeles County Sheriffs made the airfield at “Los Al” a colorful place to hang out and converse with the many pilots who were standing by.

One of those was Deputy Sheriff Tony Pachot of the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department Aero Bureau at nearby Long Beach Municipal Airport. As he stood by his Eurocopter AS-350 B-2, he extolled the virtues of rotor wing flying versus fixed wing:

“It’s a more natural way of flying. You have the ability to fly freer, and it’s a lot more fun getting from point A to point B,” said the deputy, whose 18,000 hours flying time includes over 1,000 hours in fixed wing craft such as the Temco Swift, Commanche 250, and Cessna 310.

Pachot, a 32-year veteran of the L.A. County Sheriffs Department, including two years on regular patrol, and serving as a flight instructor with the LASD Aero Bureau, was glad to have the chance to participate in the Wings, Wheels, and Rotors Expo.

The 40th Infantry Division Marching Band could also be seen on the ground as Deputy Pachot, along with Blackhawk, Huey, and Lakota pilots, in addition to Commander Chuck Street, local pilot-celebrity who flies the KTLA TV Channel 5 helicopter, all enjoyed mixing it up with the crowd.

Over the air field’s PA system, Lt. Col. Lasser could be heard telling the crowd, “It’s a great day to be an American.”

It truly was.

A COMMANDING SPIRIT OF GIVING

STORY AND PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. DAVID J. LOEFFLER

Members of the Joint Force Headquarters Command Staff traveled to the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services to lend their hands to the local community. The Command Staff assisted by assembling over 630 Christmas dinners, sorting clothing items and providing clothing and supplies to families with young children.

"The holiday season is extremely busy at the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services. The California National

Guard volunteers bagged holiday meals for distribution in our Food Assistance Program, sorted and hung clothing items in the Clothing Program, greeted new parents and helped them select baby supplies in the Mother-Baby Program all while giving clients hope" said Kelly Siefkin, Volunteer Manager at the Sacramento Food Bank "Members of this community received much needed goods and services today



because of the generous support of the California National Guard volunteers."

The Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services emerged into the Oak Park area in 1976 and has

been serving the less fortunate of the Sacramento area ever since. It offers twelve different programs ranging from its food bank to the Intel Computer Clubhouse. Over 95% of its workforce consists of a volunteers and over 97% of its funding comes from donations

within the Sacramento area.

"We were truly impressed by the range of programs the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services offered to the community" said William H. Wade II Adjutant General of the California National Guard "and we were pleased to help the local community."



SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGES

BEGIN WITH PREPERATION STORY AND PHOTO BY: TECH SGT. DAVID J. LOEFFLER



With an average of 50% of all U.S. marriages ending in divorce, and the challenges of long deployments, military families face a tough road in keeping it together.

The National Guard has taken a proactive role in helping couples cope the challenges of marriage by sponsoring the Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP.)

Thirteen couples attended the latest (PREP) course designed to teach communication techniques and help alleviate the stresses involved with military

family life.

"The PREP is an outstanding program that is designed to provide military couples with essential education and tools to survive the stressors of being a military family. PREP provides education that can foster effective communication skills for couples of all ages and experience levels" said Chaplain Chris Guadiz "Research has shown that couples who have successfully utilized PREP techniques and tools report an increase in marital satisfaction. The PREP program also provides tools and resources to help mitigate

the effects of deployments and redeployment/reintegration on military families."

During one of the first exercises, couples utilized a bright yellow four inch card which taught them Speaker-Listener Techniques. By utilizing a 'floor card' that when the speaker held the card the "floor" was their's and they were able to speak without interruption. The listener focused on the message and then paraphrased the original message. The simple exercise demonstrated how difficult it can be to listen without interruption or judgment and also allowed the speaker to be assured that the message was being understood.

"We came to the PREP course to enhance our (communication) skills and abilities in our marriage. The program is great because we were surrounded by couples, from newly-weds to couples having been married for more than 25 years, who understand marriage from a military standpoint." said Jared and Karen Snow "...and the tools are educational and enriching."

The course is conducted by the Family Readiness and military chaplains acting as "coaches" to help the couples bolster their communication skills.

"Margaret and I believe this is truly a good course which all married couples should attend. Participation in this course will minimize difficulties in communication and will teach couples to work as a team" said Sgt 1st Class Kevin Ward and his wife Margaret "The course will give couples skills for a better and longer lasting marriage."

The PREP course also touched on topics such as expectations, problem solving and keeping the relationship fun.

"Military families are the California National Guard's greatest resource." said Chaplain Guadiz "It is an honor that our Unit Ministry Teams can bring this program to our military families and it is our hope that that all service members and their spouses will take advantage of upcoming Marriage Enrichment Seminars offered by Operation Ready Families so we can help foster long-lasting and committed military marriages."

The purpose of the seminars is to coach couples on how to communicate effectively, work as a team to solve problems, manage conflicts without damaging closeness, and preserve and enhance love, commitment, and friendship. Seminars are free to CNG and hotel accommodations are reimbursed. To register for upcoming seminars or information contact Monica Malmberg at (916) 361-4958

A LASTING TESTAMENT

BY SGT. WILL MARTIN

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — When Michael Klasno learned last Mother's Day that an improvised explosive device had claimed his only son Rhys' life in Haditha, Iraq, he wanted to remember his son in the way Rhys had lived: with honor. "He believed in what he was doing," said Michael of 20-year-old Rhys, an Army National Guard sergeant with the 1114th Transportation Company out of Bakersfield, Calif. "These were remarkable young men and women (who died in the War on Terrorism)."

Six months after Rhys' death, Michael's hopes of forever honoring his son were realized when he traveled to the California National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Sacramento, Calif., on Dec. 4, 2007 for the unveiling of the Wall of Heroes, a memorial to California National Guardsmen who have died in hostile action during the Global War on Terrorism.

"This is a very honorable display," said Klasno. "This memorial is going to be here for a long time."

The Wall of Heroes is as striking as it is reverent. Draped in purple to honor California's wartime wounded in the spirit of the Purple Heart medal, the memorial greets visitors to the Joint Force Headquarters with a 52-inch LCD screen and a cadence of voices recounting each hero's story.

"Sergeant Christopher Dwayne Young, 20, of Los Angeles, California, was killed March 2, 2007, in Camp Arifan, Iraq, when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device," reads the steady, anonymous voice as Young's photo and biography appear on the screen.



Chaplain Marc Unger and his wife, Lynda, stand in front of their son's memorial Spec. Daniel Unger.



Warrent Officer Cheyene Rutherford briefs Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Twenty-two Guardsmen's stories like Klasno's and Young's appear on the screen in a continual stream, a testimony to their service and a reminder of the families left to deal with the grief of a hero's absence.

"We'd love to never see another name go on that list, but we know that's probably not going to happen," said Klasno. "Those families understand this is truly a way to honor those people. We honor them instantly."

The wall — a gift to the California

National Guard and their families from the Gold Rush Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association — weds modern technology with memorial tradition. Atop a podium rests a touchscreen that allows visitors to select which fallen Guardsman's biography they wish to display and hear. Nearby, a granite wall bears the Soldiers' and Airmen's names, while a few feet below a bronze "battlefield cross" — combat boots, helmet and dog tags hanging from an inverted rifle — remind visitors of the Guardsmen's ultimate sacrifice.

"When you are putting together something like this, it can become very mechanical ... dealing with carpeting, building, constructing, and it could be easy to lose sight of it," said Gold Rush Chapter President Chief Warrant Officer Mario Garcia. "To see the family members and their reaction, it was really amazing, and for all of us it just makes us so proud to have undertaken this project."

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger also called attention to the Guardsmen's families at the unveiling ceremony.

"Because the heroes are not only those who have passed away, the heroes are the families that are here today," said Gov. Schwarzenegger. "You are the heroes, in a different way, you are the heroes."

"The National Guard will never leave a fallen comrade either on the battlefield or in their hearts," Maj. Gen. William H. Wade, CNG adjutant general, further assured the families. "This is a perennial and perpetual tribute to all of those who give their lives in defense of freedom."

Not long after Rhys gave his life in liberty's defense, his wife Stephanie gave birth to their daughter London Eevie. The baby quickly became a living and welcome reminder of her father.

"Now we get to have a part of Rhys with us all the time," said new grandfather Michael. And thanks to the efforts of the Gold Rush Chapter, the memory of all 22 heroes will stay very much alive and within the reach of all.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. David J. Loeffler and Chief Warrant Officer Jon-Nolan Paresa





Left photo

1st. Lt. Angela Delwiche crosses the finish line

right photo

Maj. Zac Delwiche
1st. Lt. Angela Delwiche
Col. Michael Herman
Kristen Allen
(from left to right)

CNG SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL MARATHON

BY CAPT. MISTY RACIMO

While most of us were sound asleep in our warm beds, members of the 40th Infantry Division's Tactical Command Post (TACCP) were wide awake preparing to support the community which surrounds their armory on 58th Street in Sacramento. The TACCP volunteered to assist with road closure for the 25th Annual California International Marathon (CIM) held Dec. 2.

The unit supported the running route from the 22nd mile marker to the 24th mile marker. For the past several years the unit's main community support project is, in

the words of Sgt. 1st Class David Johnson, "to ensure we keep them safe; the only thing that matter's is the runners."

The unit is designated to ensure the roads, beginning at 57TH and J Street to Alhambra and J Street, are closed to all vehicles. "The Soldiers' primary duty along the route is to maintain road closure for the runners," said Johnson.

By 7 a.m. the Soldiers, wearing reflective vests with National Guard written in black, were manning their designated streets waiting for race officials to give the signal

to close off the roads, meaning the runners were on their way. 1st Lt. Artena Pibal, TACCP Commander, "trooped the line" ensuring her Soldiers were warm, in place, and happy; or at least as comfortable as they could be in the 40 degree weather.

At around 9 a.m. troops working the marathon route saw the first male runner, Laban Moiban of Kenya, heading towards the finish line with a winning time of two hours, 14 minutes and 31 seconds.

Though the unit's primary task was safety, they did not forget to

support five of the unit's former and current members, Col. Michael Herman, Maj. Zach Delwiche, 1st Lt. Ealy Seto, 2nd Lt. Angela Delwiche, and Staff Sgt. Mark Miller, who were in the race.

The Soldiers supporting the event were surprised by the amount of support the runners and community members gave them. One race participant took his much needed energy to personally stop and shake the hands of each Soldier along the two miles stretch for "all their support and sacrifice."



A 'GREEN' CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD

BY MAJ. KENNETH KOOP

The California Military Department, under the leadership of Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II and Brig. Gen. Mary Kight, is committed to Governor Schwarzenegger's "Green California" initiative and meeting the requirements of the President's Executive Order 13423. Meeting the state and federal requirements will lead to a long-range sustainability program, also known as an environmental Management System (eMS), for the Department. One of the most visible manifestations of the sustainability program is the Departmental Environmental Policy.

The environmental policy guides the California Military Department Soldiers, Airmen, and employees to include environmental considerations in their decisions and actions, just as we have come to integrate safety into our decisions and actions. The Departmental environmental policy, applicable to all members and employees, outlines the Adjutant General's vision for how to implement this requirement. Key features of the policy include a commitment to environmental stewardship at California National Guard lands and facilities; protecting the environment,

conserving resources, and enhancing mission readiness; and continual improvement of the California National Guard. The environmental policy is available on both the public webpage (www.calguard.ca.gov/caev) and the environmental portal page (<https://portal.ca.ngb.army.mil/sites/caev>).

Camp San Luis Obispo applied the principles of eMS to win one of the 16 Governor's and Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards (GEELA) for 2007. By identifying environmental impacts that could have an adverse impact on Cali-

fornia National Guard operations, then developing a partnership with other state and local agencies and private organizations, Camp San Luis Obispo was able to preserve critical training lands for continued use while meeting their environmental stewardship responsibilities.



Maj. Joseph Loveleace (center), commander of the 1113th Transportation Company in Kuwait, congratulates Sgts. Alonso Rodriguez and Sophie Ruiz after receiving Army Commendation Medals



Lt. Col. Eric Murray (left), task force commander of the Joint Logistics Task Force 1144, presents the Golden Wrench Award to Maj. Joseph Loveleace, commander of the 1113th Transportation Company after the California unit won November's top maintenance honor among seven units within the 1144th

1113TH CLAIMS TOP MAINTENANCE RECOGNITION IN KUWAIT

STORY AND PHOTO BY SGT EDDIE SIGUENZA

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – The Joint Logistics Task Force 1144 honored its dirtiest Soldiers recently for important roles they play to keep nearly 500 long haul vehicles running.

A Maintenance Recognition Dinner was held Dec. 5 giving credit to the task force's mechanics, the keys behind the 1144th's successful operation since arriving in the Middle East theatre last June.

"Maintenance crews serve the most important roles. They maintain all the equipment and keep our operation running," said Capt. David Wallace, battalion maintenance officer. "Without them our mission will come to a halt. We want to recognize them for the outstanding jobs their doing. This is long overdue."

About 300 mechanics work regularly to keep humvees, flatbed trucks, forklifts and other heavy vehicles operable. Work ranges from changing flat tires and motor oil to replacing damaged windows, batteries and radiators.

"We do recognize that what they're doing is important to our mission," Wallace added. "The important thing is to let them know we appreciate their hard work and the long hours they put in."

California's 1113th Transportation Company earned the night's respected honor, the Golden Wrench, an honor bestowed for its organizational readiness. This is a traveling award, Wallace explained. It goes to one of seven units that records a high rate of mission-capable vehicles against those non-capable.



Sgt. Alonso Rodriguez (Army Achievement Medal); Sgt. Sophia Ruiz (Army Achievement Medal); Chief Warrant Officer Timothy Weiland (Golden Wrench Award); Maj. Joseph Loveleace, 1113th commander; Master Sgt. Biviano Vasquez; Spc. Raul Grando; Staff Sgt. Frank Townsend (Army Commendation Medal); and Staff Sgt. Lawrence Seelig (1144th Recognition Award).

"This shows the hard work put in by all of the motor pool," said Master Sgt. Biviano Vasquez, 1113th's maintenance noncommissioned officer in charge (NCOIC). "This means our maintenance program, the way we set it up, works."

"Mechanics do majority of the dirty work. There isn't one mechanic who goes to bed without getting his hands and uniform dirty."

The award follows October's Motor Pool of the Month, an honor the 1113th earned for its efforts and knowledge of hazardous materials. The 1113th was tabbed as the top motor pool among Camp Arifjan's Zone 6. Sgts. Alonso Rodriguez and So-

phia Ruiz received Army Achievement Medals for their assistance in the 1113th's recent success. They helped set up their motor pool's HAZMAT program and were influential in keeping vehicles running, Vasquez explained.

"They were rewarded for doing an outstanding job during this time period," he added. "It's about time mechanics get recognized. We got a lot more good Soldiers doing a lot of work."

Also honored were Sgt. Roland Parker of the 429th Transportation Company; Staff Sgt. Brian Henry, 424th Medium Truck Detachment (MTD); Sgt. Brent Pacieb, 1230th Transportation Company; Pfc.

Randy Gordon, 109th Transportation Company; Sen. Airman Mark Dulmaine, 70th MTD; and Staff Sgt. Armando Soria of the 167th.

Joining the 1113th's awardees were Staff Sgt. Frank Townsend (Army Commendation Medal) and Staff Sgt. Lawrence Seelig (1144th Recognition Award). Townsend serves as his unit's motor pool NCOIC. Seelig uses his civilian skills to keep generators and other motor-run equipment running.

The 70th MTD finished second for the Golden Wrench award. The 109th took third place.

BY CAPT. BRYAN L. WILLIAMS

CNG STATE ANTITERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER “VIGILANCE IS THE BEST DEFENSE”

Happy New Year everyone! This is my first article in The Grizzly publication and I am very grateful to be allowed a place to reach all of you and keep everyone informed of all that is going on in the world of Antiterrorism.

2008 has finally arrived! As we are only seven years removed from the events of September 11, 2001, our state and nation has taken numerous protective measures to protect our people and our way of life. As we have made very great strides in the world of Antiterrorism and Force Protec-

tion, we unfortunately have also become a society that very easily forgets and becomes complacent in our everyday lives. Last month we witnessed another incident of domestic terrorism at its worst. The shooting rampage in Omaha, Nebraska paints a very clear picture that we still have a ways to go when it comes down to Antiterrorism and Force Protection.

Acts of terrorism can happen in any place, at any time. We all must strive to remain vigilant and aware of our surroundings

at all times, no matter if we are at home, in the workplace, or out in the community.

We all take for granite that we are safe because we may not live in a densely populated area like Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, or Atlanta. But recent events in our heartland remind us all that we need to be on guard and report suspicious individuals or activities to local authorities.

There is an old cliché that says “if it looks like a duck, quacks like a duck, walks like a duck, then

more than likely, it is a duck!” If something looks out of place or just doesn’t look right, report it to authorities. It is better to report something and be wrong, than not to report it at all and it becomes tomorrow’s headlines.

I, as well as our CNG Army and Air National Guard Antiterrorism Officers and NCO’s are here to assist you all with AT Awareness and training that you may need. I can be reached at (916) 369-4972, CAGNET: 64972 or e-mail me at bryan.williams8@us.army.mil.

VETERAN AFFAIRS

COMBAT VETERAN ELIGIBILITY

Benefit Description: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides cost-free health care services and nursing home care for conditions possibly related to military service to veterans with combat service after November 11, 1998 for a 2-year period beginning on the date of their separation from active military service.

Who’s eligible: Veterans, including activated Reservists and members of the National Guard, are eligible if they served on active duty

in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Gulf War or; were in combat against a hostile force during a period of “hostilities” after November 11, 1998 and, have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

What are combat veterans eligible for:

- Cost-free care, including medications, for conditions potentially related to their combat service for up to 2 years following their discharge or release from active duty.
- Enrollment into Enrollment Priority Group 6 if not otherwise qualified for a higher enrollment priority group assignment.
- Full access to VA’s Medical Benefits Package.

For Information on services offered by the VA or to locate the nearest VA facility log on to: www.va.gov

NEWS & BENEFITS

Help Our Troops Call Home

The "Help Our Troops Call Home" program keeps telecommunication costs low for troops far from home. Any American can help keep military families connected this holiday season by sending Global Prepaid Phone cards to either individual designated servicemembers or to "any service-member." To place an order, either log on to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's website aafes.com or call 1-800-527-2345

2008 TSP Contribution Limits Set

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board announced that 2008's elective deferral limit for regular Thrift Savings Plan contributions will be \$15,500. In addition, contributions for the TSP catch-up plan will remain \$5,000. TSP catch-up contributions are additional tax-deferred contributions and are separate from regular TSP contributions. For those who are eligible, catch-up contributions provide a way for individuals to secure their retirement if they began investing later in their careers. Additional information about TSP, both regular and catch-up, is available on the TSP website @ <http://www.tsp.gov/> See Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan located uniformed services.

Wounded Warriors Keep Enlistment Bonuses

Soldiers who become ill or are wounded while on active duty are entitled to keep all recruitment bonuses due them. The Army has reiterated that policy after a Wounded Soldier inadvertently received a letter from the Army that stated he would be required to pay back any enlistment money he received. Ill or wounded Soldiers who have received letters from the Army asking for repayment of a recruitment bonus should call the Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline at 1-800-984-8523 to report the issue as soon as possible. The Hotline can be reached from overseas assignments via the Defense Switch Network at 1-312-328-0002. Callers will receive responses within 24 hours.

Deployment Opportunity; ETTs Needed

The California Army National Guard is looking for volunteers for an Embedded Training Team (ETT) mission to Afghanistan. The mobilization date for the mission will commence on 20 Jan 08 with movement to the mobilization station on 23 Jan 08. The total length of the mission is for 400 days to include earned leave. Female Soldiers are not eligible to apply. Projected BOG will be 9-10 months in Afghanistan. The mission has 3 vacancies: 1x63H E6/E7 and 2x63B E6/E7.

NOTE: Soldiers already selected for other mobilizations are not eligible to change missions.

Interested Soldiers need to respond to: MAJ Kevin Eldridge @ kevin.eldridge@us.army.mil/562-795-2493 or 813-3124421

Arabic Training Now Available

Arabic cultural-awareness training from Third U.S. Army/U.S. Army Central and the Jordanian Armed Forces is now available to all American servicemembers. Course topics include the hierarchy of tribes and the structure of Iraqi society, family social structures, women in Arabic society, Iraqi do's and don'ts, the Arabic language and cultural awareness. For more information visit "Cultural Awareness Training" under useful links on the Third U.S. Army/USARCENT's homepage -- Army Knowledge Online (AKO) access is required

Soldier of the Year

Soldier of the Year Banquet will be held February 9, 2008 in San Diego. R.S.V.P now, seats are limited for more information and tickets contact Sgt. Husbands at 858-573-7044

Airman of the Year

Airman of the Year Banquet will be held January 12, 2008 in San Jose. For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Lilliana Ramos at 650-603-9202.

Did you know?

That when injured on duty your medical coverage depends on your status?

LD investigations and reports are REQUIRED for all Soldiers that are injured while on Inactive Duty Training (IDT), Annual Training (AT), Active Duty for Special Work (ADSW), Temporary Tour of Active Duty (TTAD), and Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) status. Medical benefits and resources vary depending on the personnel status and if they are active duty for more than 30 days vs. active duty for 30 days or less.

LD investigations can be Formal and Informal. Formal investigations are REQUIRED when there is suspected misconduct or negligence. See AR 600-8-4, on the Applicability, Reasons and Requirements for LD investigations and reports. For more information on LODs, visit the US Army Human Resources Command website at: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Reserve/soldierservices/medical/lodinvestigations.htm>

Line of Duty investigations and reports are NOT APPLICABLE for Soldiers injured on State Active Duty (SAD), Emergency State Active Duty (ESAD) and Federal Technician (FEDTECH) Status. In fact, LD reports CANNOT be used for VA claims against injuries sustained on SAD/ESAD or FEDTECH Status. Service members injured on SAD or ESAD will file a Workers Compensation Claim (WCC) that is separate from LD reports. State Civil Service (SCS) employees also have separate WCC reporting procedures. For more information on Workers Compensation visit <http://www.dpa.ca.gov/Benefits/BAM/1406.shtm> . FEDTECHS (Air and Army) are covered under the Technician Workers' Compensation program outlined in Full-time Personnel Handbook 810 available at: http://www.calguard.ca.gov/cahr/Documents/Pubs/FPR/CNGFPH_810.pdf.

Know the status of the Soldier when they were injured before automatically filling out an LD report!



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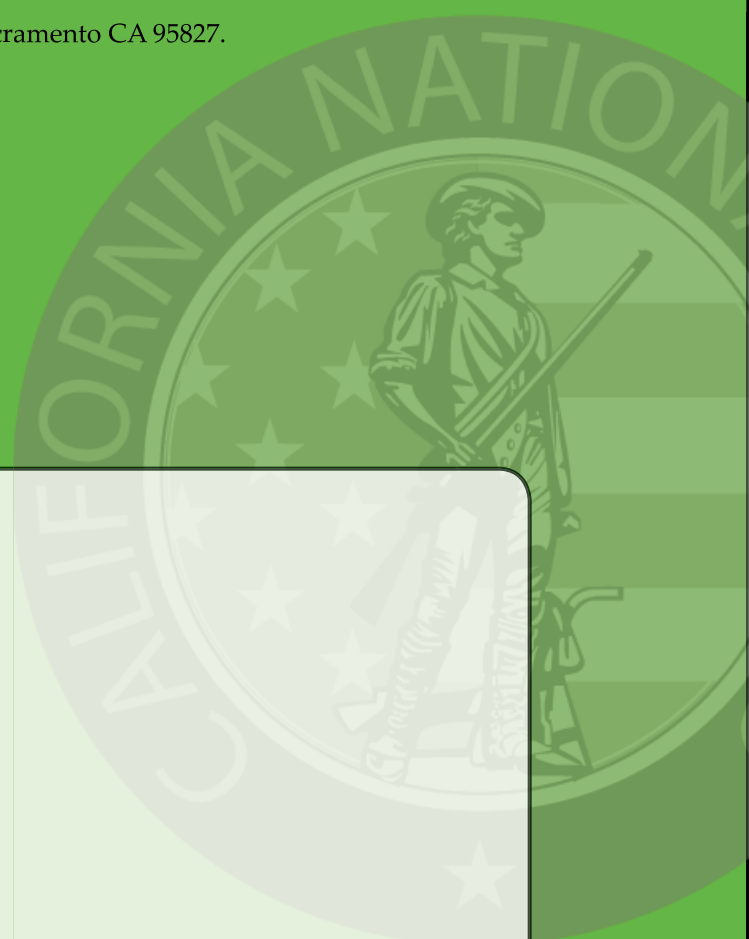
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